

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2015  
6:30 P.M.**

**BUILDING, ZONING, AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR ROOM 250  
88 WEST MCINTYRE STREET  
KEY BISCAYNE, FL 33149**

**AGENDA**

1. Attendance  
Kristen Guess, Jackie Campo Keenan, Brett Moss, Anne Rothe and Allison McCormick and Lili Warner. Staff: Ana de Varona (VKB), Sylvia Tarafa (MDCPS), Iraida Mendez-Cartaya (MDCPS), Beatriz Zarraluqui (MDCPS)
2. Bilingual program presentation by MDCPS Staff  
Ms. Beatriz Zarraluqui made a presentation on the Bilingual program. The program began in 1997. There were 17 schools during that time. During the 2012-2013 school year, the program began to expand to more schools throughout the county. In the 2014-2015 school year there are 138 schools that participate in the program with 1,011 sections. EFL is meant to be taught by a linguistically qualified teacher. The EFL program is a parental choice program.

Teachers must have an elementary education certification. They must take a language proficiency test that the principal of the school administers. There is a lot of professional development for teachers.

The EFL program does not have different levels for students. Teachers must follow a pacing guide.

There was a question regarding the change that happened with the books this year. Ms. Zarraluqui mentioned that the District did purchase new books. Her staff worked with the book maker to provide a well-rounded book for all students. The books are called Maravillas. The stories in the book are from different Latin American countries. There was a big difference from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The pacing guides have been beefed up so the students can be ready for the following year. Next school year the children in Kindergarten and First grade will receive the new books.

Sunset has an afterschool program. Coral Way has a BISO program in which 60% is in English and 40% is in Spanish.

There was a question about testing in Spanish and students having a hard time with the tests. Ms. Zarraluqui mentioned that if you teach a language you have to test in that language.

A recommendation was made to the District of the possibility of having summer reading to help the First graders going into Second grade.

There will be professional development for teachers over the summer on the new books. Teachers do not receive extra compensation for their participation in the program.

3. Next meeting on March 11, 2015

4. Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 8pm.